

# Children of America's Fund

Oak Hill

Newton Centre, Mass.

## A Grave Danger to America's Twenty Million Children

Never has civilization faced a graver crisis than to-day, when great nations, the organized supporters of truth, justice and love, have cast aside these great ideals, which man has struggled so long to express, and are murdering each other in barbaric war. Never have our churches had a greater burden or a greater opportunity to uphold and prove their great ideals. According as we handle this terrible situation, civilization will go forward or backward by mighty strides.

In normal times, we keep from our children even pictures and books of murder, cruelty, hatred, lying and other evil influences. We guide their pity in generous, helpful acts to those in need and suffering. To-day every paper is filled with pictures of war-fields covered with dead; with pictures of helpless men, women and children, homeless, starving; with stories of the successful accomplishment of lying, selfish diplomacy. These influences of lying, hatred, murder and awful suffering are moulding and hardening the lives of America's twenty million children and arousing unexpressed pity. They are ruining their noblest ideals and threatening to crush out the truth, justice, love and helpfulness we have tried to teach them. A short time ago the Titanic disaster, the Messina earthquake, aroused our deepest pity and sympathy. The recent Italian earthquake was but an incident of this destructive war-time and hardly caused a tremor. If the pity of adults is frozen and their sensibilities are numbed, how much more are these influences withering the far more tender sensibilities of our unformed children.

This overpowering danger creates an opportunity equally great, if only we face the facts and act with promptness and wisdom.

A nation-wide relief movement has been started under the name of the Children of America's Fund to turn our children's minds from destructive murder to helpful life-giving, and in this way to build on the appalling need a strong, helpful race of men and women. Funds raised are to be used—one-half to relieve local suffering, one-half to relieve the awful suffering in Europe.

It is the plan to accomplish this purpose by instructive, helpful work in and out of school, in which the most skillful guidance in art, manual training, music, entertainments, school gardening, sewing shall be given by the central organization to the children of the country where needed.

On the National Advisory Board are many of the leading educators and editors of the country including

CHARLES W. ELIOT, President-Emeritus of Harvard University.  
DAVID STARR JORDAN, President of the National Educational Association.

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BENJAMIN I. WHEELER, President of the University of California.

REV. FREDERICK LYNCH, D.D., Secretary of The Church Peace Union, Editor of *Christian Work*.

Our children can raise at least \$1,000,000 without burden on any one, as the funds are to be raised in small sums—the people's gift through their children. They can make millions of needed articles of clothing and other things. Working shoulder to shoulder to offset the influences of organized murderous war, they will feel the quickening, helpful impulse of their great life-giving organization—a mighty impulse in their lives and a great example to the world.

Children are to *earn* the money and *make* needed articles of clothing, as it is essential that each feel that he has worked or sacrificed to help.

You can help in any or all of the following ways at once:

1. By arousing your congregation, your community and the press to this terrible danger.
2. By interesting your public schools and co-operating fully with any efforts they may make.
3. By starting your congregation, adults and children, in entertainments and in forming them into "We Are Seven" Clubs, by which seven persons each giving five cents a week will keep one starving child alive.

Write immediately for full working details to the Children of America's Fund, Oak Hill, Newton Centre, Mass.

In this awful time, our people are groping for guidance as never before. Parents, friends, neighbors will join their children in this great relief movement "and a little child shall lead them" in an expressed religion of kindly, helpful acts toward "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men."

HORACE K. TURNER,

Oak Hill, Newton Centre, Mass.

